

Remarks

Examiner Stephen Baker is thanked for the Office Action mailed July 12, 2004, that indicated allowable subject matter in claims 1-9 and 16-24. Claims 10-15 and 25-46 have been rejected.

The invention relates to a system and method for measuring error rates in digital transmissions. The present system employs a pseudo error rate that may be used in a variety of manners. One specific embodiment uses a de-glitch filter that filters glitches from a data enable (DE) signal and then compares this signal to a delayed original data enable signal to arrive at the pseudo error rate determination. This provides a quick and accurate estimate of the communications error rate with an efficient use of hardware devices.

Regarding the claim objections, claims 36-40 and 42-46 have been corrected as suggested by the Examiner. Regarding the rejections of claims 11, 14, 26, 29, 31 and 33 under section 112 first paragraph, it is respectfully submitted that the claimed feature of TMDS encoding is not essential to the practice of the claimed invention, and is discussed in the specification in a manner that would enable one of ordinary skill in the art to use the instant invention with TMDS encoding methods. For these reasons it is respectfully submitted that these claims rejections and objections are overcome.

Regarding the rejections of claims 10, 15 and 25-46, these claims have been rejected under sections 102 and 103, in view of a plurality of references. In response to these rejections, independent claims 10, 13, 15, 25, 28, 30, 32, 34, 35 and 41 have been amended to incorporate the feature of the DE signal being low when the detecting or comparing is performed. When the DE

signal is low, these embodiments perform the patentable function of detecting and filtering glitches. In the specification on page 8, it is set forth that "Although the preferred embodiment measures an error rate when the DE is high, the same technique can be used to measure an error rate when the DE is low, in which case it becomes equivalent to the embodiment based on detecting the DE glitch". Therefore appropriate language has been inserted into all the rejected independent claims to incorporate the equivalent of the allowable subject matter in claims 1-9 and 16-24.

Applicant respectfully submits that in light of the amendments and remarks, the application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned Agent if any issues remain.

Respectfully submitted,
Perkins Coie LLP



Steven S. Kelley
Registration No. 43,449

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Correspondence Address:

Customer No. 22918
Perkins Coie LLP
P.O. Box 2168
Menlo Park, CA 94025
Telephone: (202) 434-1630
Facsimile: (202) 434-1690

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